

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 TRSE-00 AID-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 SSO-00

INRE-00 NSC-10 SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 NSCE-00 /163 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JKBISHOP:RCB
APPROVED BY AF/W - JLLOUGHRAN
EB/IFD/ODF:EMLINTON
EB/IFD/OIA:CNELLIS (INFO)
TREASURY:HSHAPIRO (SUBS)
AFR/CWA:AHELLIS (SUBS)

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O R 012226Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215800

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, EAID, PFOR, IBRD, GH
SUBJECT: GHANA DEBTS: CONTRACTS

REF: A. ACCRA 6654; B. ACCRA 6653; C. ACCRA 6645;
D. STATE 214473; E. STATE 185099.

1. IBRD HAS RECEIVED CABLE FROM NRC SECRETARY NATHAN QUAO
STATING THAT ACHEAMPONG DIRECTED HIM INFORM IBRD THAT
NOVEMBER 5 DATE IMPRACTICAL BUT GOG BELIEVES NEGOTIATIONS
CAN BEGIN DURING FIRST OR SECOND WEEK OF DECEMBER. CABLE
THEN CONTINUES QUOTE BEFORE A FIRM DATE IS FIXED IT IS
HOPED THE GHANA GOVERNMENT'S REACTION TO THE CREDITORS'
PROPOSALS WILL BE CONVEYED TO THEM BY THE BANK UNQUOTE.

2. WHILE PLEASED TO HAVE ACHEAMPONG'S ASSURANCE THAT GOG
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PLANS INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS PRIOR END OF YEAR, BANK OFFI-

CIALS MYSTIFIED BY LATTER HALF OF QUAO'S TELEGRAM. BANK CABLING REITTER REQUESTING HIM OBTAIN CLARIFICATION.

3. REITTER, WHOM BANK TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY CONTACT BY TELEPHONE OCTOBER 31, ALSO BEING INSTRUCTED INFORM GOG THAT OCTOBER 25 NOTE INCONSISTENT WITH ASSURANCES GIVEN CHAUFournIER BY ENNINFUL AND THOSE RECEIVED FROM DEBRAH, WHICH WERE BASIS FOR IBRD ACTION ON ROAD LOAN IN OCTOBER 30 BOARD MEETING.

4. BRITISH DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BROWNING HAS INFORMED IBRD STAFF THAT WHEN STANLEY SAW DEBRAH OCTOBER 31 LATTER WAS AWARE OF OCTOBER 25 NOTE BUT DOWNPLAYED ITS SIGNIFICANCE, SUGGESTING CREDITORS GIVE A NONCOMMITTAL REPLY. STANLEY REPORTED TO LONDON THAT DEBRAH DID NOT APPEAR APPRECIATE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH CREDITORS WOULD VIEW NOTE'S STATEMENT THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONTINGENT ON SUPPLY OF INFORMATION REQUESTED SEPTEMBER 7.

5. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES PROMPT ACTION UNDERTAKEN BY EMBASSY IN RESPONSE REFTEL D. IN TALKS WITH GOG OFFICIALS, EMBASSY SHOULD CONTINUE UNDERLINE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG, IBRD, AND OTHERS SYMPATHETIC TO GHANA'S NEEDS REGARD PRESENT BEHAVIOR OF GOG, WHICH CAN ONLY REINFORCE BELIEF OF SOME CREDITORS THAT GOG UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY.

6. MUCH OF INFORMATION REQUESTED IN SEPTEMBER 7 NOTE ALREADY IN GHANAIAIAN FILES OR IBRD REPORTS AVAILABLE TO GOG. AT CREDITORS' SEPTEMBER 18-19 MEETING, IBRD SAID IT WOULD SO INFORM GHANAIAANS, AND MCGIBBON UNDERTOOK TO REVIEW SITUATION WITH GHANAIAANS AFTER HIS ARRIVAL ACCRA. WOULD BE USEFUL HAVE REPORT FROM MCGIBBON OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH GOG ON THIS TOPIC.

7. AS EMBASSY INFORMED PREVIOUSLY (REFTEL E), USG UNABLE FURNISH DOCUMENTATION REQUESTED IN SEPTEMBER 7 NOTE. (FYI-DEPARTMENT REVIEWING WHAT DATA USG MIGHT BE ABLE PROVIDE GOG, AND WOULD BE HELPFUL HAVE MCGIBBON'S ASSESS-CONFIDENTIAL

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MENT OF WHAT DATA ACTUALLY UNAVAILABLE TO GHANAIAANS FROM OTHER SOURCES END FYI). KISSINGER

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